THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

TOP SECRET/SENSITIVE

April 8, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE SECRETARY OF STATE
THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

SUBJECT:

Assessment of Military Situation in Cambodia

The President has directed that the Secretary of Defense in consultation with the Secretary of State form a team to obtain an on the ground assessment of the military situation in Cambodia. The focus of the study should be on the capabilities of Cambodian ground forces through the next dry season and how FANK capabilities relate to the situation in South Vietnam and Vietnamization.

The President has instructed that this investigation be carried out by a small elite team of not more than three persons, that the current strict procedures guiding the role of U.S. personnel in Cambodia be adhered to without exception, that the team work closely with our Embassy in Phnom Penh, and that the investigation be carried out principally outside Phnom Penh.

The team's assessment should be submitted to the President by June 1, 1971.

Henry A. Kissinger

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

cc: Director, Central Intelligence

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No Objection to Declassification in Full 2010/01/27: LOC-HAK-449-5-6-2